

50X1-HUM

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

EXPAND TELEVISION IN USSR;
CRITICIZE INSTALLATION AND REPAIR

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources]

In 1951, the inhabitants of Moscow purchased 36,550 television sets. In the first 2 months of 1952, the enterprises of Gosradiotrest installed 8,000 new television receivers in Moscow and its vicinity. There are now 60,000 television sets in all. (1)

Outside the capital, the number of television sets in Moscow Oblast is about 7,000; many of them are installed in village reading rooms and kolkhhoz clubs. There are television sets in 20 kolkhхозes of Leningradskiy Rayon and also in many agricultural cooperatives of Mytishchinskii, Istrinskii, Krasno-Polyanskiy, Shchelkovskiy, Ramenskii, Podolskiy, and other rayons. More than 4,000 television sets were installed in 1951.(2) All the kolkhхозes of Mytishchinskii Rayon have purchased television sets, which are installed in village clubs, libraries, and reading rooms. Many kolkhhoz workers buy television sets. Since the beginning of 1951, the workers of Mytishchinskii Rayon have acquired 1,025 television sets.(3)

A number of television sets and vacuum tube radio receivers work unsatisfactorily at many points in Moscow Oblast because of strong fluctuations in the line voltage. Voltage regulators can correct this condition, but they are rarely on sale, and if they are, their cost almost equals that of a radio receiver. In extreme instances, an autotransformer with a volt meter can be used. Unfortunately, the autotransformers on sale have a power of 200 watts, whereas television sets require 320 watts. (4)

The servicing of television sets is also unsatisfactory. A radio trust has been set up in Moscow with three television workshops for the installation and repair of sets. The absence of spare parts shortens the actual term of the guarantee. One television owner requested the installation of a T-2 on the same day he bought it. The order to install it was made out 9 days later, and the

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technician finally appeared 4 days after that. After inspecting the set, the technician disclosed that spare parts were needed to make it work and that they were not available. Another owner complained that 42 days of the guarantee period had elapsed, but his family had only been able to watch television a few times, again because there were no spare parts. Many buyers could not even have their sets installed.(5)

The third television center in the USSR is being added to Kiev in 1952 to the two already existing in Moscow and Leningrad.(6) Trial television broadcasting was finishing on 30 January 1952 (7) and now regular broadcasts are made twice a week. Kiev has a 180-meter television tower, the highest in the country. The broadcasting radius is calculated at 70-80 kilometers, although programs are received at points 100 kilometers or more directly away from Kiev. Regular broadcasts will begin in May or June after all construction work on the center has been completed. About 1,000 television sets have already been installed in Kiev (6), and 3,600 sets will be received in the first quarter 1952. A television enterprise has been created to install and repair sets and to advise viewers.(7)

The first amateur television center in the USSR began to operate a year ago in Khar'kov.(8) Active members of Dosaaf created it and assembled the equipment in their spare time.(9)

SOURCES

1. Moscow, Vechernyaya Moskva, 19 Mar 52
2. Moscow, Pravda, 24 Jan 52
3. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 25 Nov 51
4. Moscow, Izvestiya, 5 Feb 52
5. Vechernyaya Moskva, 8 Jan 52
6. Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 3 Feb 52
7. Moscow, Trud, 30 Jan 52
8. Riga, Sovetskaya Litva, 6 Jan 52
9. Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 8 Jan 52

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